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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Fudanuki et al. :  
Patent No. 6,054,872 :  
Application No. 08/997,035 :  
Filed: December 23, 1997 :  
Issued: April 25, 2000 :  
Attorney Docket No. 040301-0487

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed June 24, 2004, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The patent issued April 25, 2000. The last day of the grace period for paying the 3.5 maintenance fee was April 25, 2004. Therefore, since this petition was filed within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), this petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-0482. Any telephone inquiries after September 28, 2004 should be directed to (571) 272-3206.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

Liana Chase  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
For Patent Examination Policy